

“As a self taught artist, I am as curious and hungry for experience as an explorer on the brink of discovery. Each new painting is a chance to look at the world with a fresh perspective. My surroundings supply clues for setting scenes, atmosphere, depth, and lighting. Each piece becomes a way to put onto canvas the new ideas, concepts, and approaches that the day inspires.

I love color, bright and vibrant and in unexpected combinations. Although my work is representational, I have never felt confined to reproducing literal reality. Instead I like to play with the imagery and put twists into my work that help to flesh out the stories inherent in most of my pieces, stories about and for people, sometimes slipping off into a light fantasy or an everyday moment.

I particularly enjoy working on a large scale, with wall murals and the development of a narrative or panoramic theme. Painting outdoors involves interaction with the public, both as people pass by during the artistic process and in years to come as the mural exists as “free-to-see” art.”

“Working with children as an artist-in-residence has been especially gratifying. The cooperative process involved touches on art’s greatest gift, communication. Art stimulates dialogue among people, encouraging thought and furthering understanding. A picture really can be worth a thousand words. For this reason, I like my work to express a positive theme with an uplifting current.

In this era of impersonal technological prowess, I relish the hands-on sensation of working in traditional paints and pastels on paper, canvas and board, pushing color around to achieve the desired effect. I look forward to exploring other mediums as well.

Today’s world is marked by full schedules and life lived at a hectic pace. I find the practice of making art an anchor. Each fresh canvas becomes a focus until finished when it comes to feel like an old friend.”

Cathy Fields